

U.S. Serial No. 10/661,681
Amendment Dated December 23, 2004
Response To Office Action Dated August 24, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~sealing system~~ turbine engine of claim 1, further comprising at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud toward the turbine blade assembly.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~sealing system~~ turbine engine of claim 2, wherein at least one protrusion extends circumferentially about an axis of rotation of the turbine blade assembly.
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~sealing system~~ turbine engine of claim 2, wherein the at least one seal land comprises at least a first seal land and a second seal land, wherein the first seal land is positioned on the shrouded turbine blade upstream of the at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud, and the second seal land is positioned

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on the shrouded turbine blade downstream of the at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The sealing system of claim 1;~~ A turbine engine having a sealing system for reducing a gap between a tip of a shrouded turbine blade and a stationary shroud of a turbine engine, comprising:
at least one shrouded turbine blade;
at least one seal land coupled to at least one shrouded turbine blade, the at least one seal land extending from a tip of the at least one shrouded turbine blade toward the stationary shroud of the turbine engine and having a curved configuration;
wherein the at least one seal land is adapted to straighten from a curved resting position to an operating position where a tip of the at least one seal land is closer to the stationary shroud of the turbine engine than when the turbine engine is in a resting position;
and

wherein the at least one seal land is attached to the shrouded turbine blade by sliding the at least one seal land into a slot in the tip of the shrouded turbine blade.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The sealing system~~ turbine engine of claim 1,
wherein the at least one seal land is brazed to the tip of the shrouded turbine blade.

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7. (Currently Amended) ~~The sealing system of claim 1, A turbine engine~~
having a sealing system for reducing a gap between a tip of a shrouded turbine blade and a
stationary shroud of a turbine engine, comprising:
at least one shrouded turbine blade;
at least one seal land coupled to at least one shrouded turbine blade, the at least one
seal land extending from a tip of the at least one shrouded turbine blade toward the stationary
shroud of the turbine engine and having a curved configuration;
wherein the at least one seal land is adapted to straighten from a curved resting
position to an operating position where a tip of the at least one seal land is closer to the
stationary shroud of the turbine engine than when the turbine engine is in a resting position;
and
wherein the at least one seal land is formed from a curved bi-metallic strip.

8. (Original) The sealing system of claim 7, wherein the at least one seal land is formed from a first material having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and a second material having a second coefficient of thermal expansion greater than the first coefficient of the thermal expansion, wherein the first material forms the outer perimeter of the at least one seal land and the second material forms the inner perimeter of the at least one seal land.

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9. (Currently Amended) The sealing system of claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein the at least one seal land is curved into a gas flow.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim ~~10~~ 18 wherein at least one protrusion extends circumferentially about an axis of rotation.

12. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim ~~10~~ 18, wherein the at least one seal land comprises at least a first seal land and a second seal land, wherein the first seal land is positioned on the shrouded turbine blade upstream of the at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud, and the second seal land is positioned on the shrouded blade downstream of the at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud.

13. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim ~~10~~ 7, wherein the at least one seal land is attached to the blade by sliding the at least one seal land into a slot in the tip of the shrouded blade.

14. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim ~~9~~ 7, wherein the at least one seal land is brazed to the tip of the shrouded blade.

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15. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim 9 5, wherein the at least one seal land is formed from a curved bi-metallic strip.

16. (Original) The turbine engine of claim 15, wherein the at least one seal land is formed from a first material having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and a second material having a second coefficient of thermal expansion greater than the first coefficient of the thermal expansion, wherein the first material forms the outer perimeter of the at least one seal land and the second material forms the inner perimeter of the at least one seal land.

17. (Currently Amended) The turbine engine of claim 10 7, wherein the at least one seal land is curved into a gas flow.

18. (New) The sealing system of claim 7, further comprising at least one protrusion extending from the stationary shroud toward the at least one turbine blade.